

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
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O R 101248Z MAY 78 ZFF 4  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO USMISSION USBERLIN NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8384  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 08587

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, AKB  
SUBJECT: QUAI REQUESTS DEMARCHE TO SENAT REGARDING  
PURPORTED REMARKS BY BERLIN MAYOR STOBBE ON  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

REF: USBER 1025

SUMMARY: THE FRENCH, ON INSTRUCTIONS, HAVE PROPOSED TO  
THE BRITISH AND US BONN GROUP REPS THAT WE RECOMMEND  
AN ALLIED INQUIRY TO THE SENAT REGARDING REMARKS PUR-  
PORTEDLY MADE BY BERLIN GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE TO THE  
EFFECT THAT THE NAMES OF PARTIES' CANDIDATES FOR  
DELEGATES FROM BERLIN TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
SHOULD BE MADE PUBLICLY KNOWN PRIOR TO THE NEXT BERLIN  
LOCAL ELECTIONS. THE FRENCH ARE CONCERNED THAT THIS  
COULD LEAD TO DE FACTO POPULAR ELECTIONS FOR CANDIDATES  
TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN BERLIN AND THE UK REP  
AGREED TO RECOMMEND A LOW-KEY INQUIRY TO THE  
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SENAT AS TO WHAT IT WAS THAT STOBBE IN FACT SAID. THE  
US REP RESERVED HIS POSITION, BECAUSE OF LACK OF PRIOR  
KNOWLEDGE OF THE PURPORTED REMARKS. ACTION REQUESTED:  
SEE PARAGRAPH 10. END SUMMARY

1. ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARIS, THE FRENCH REP (RICHARD)  
CALLED A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ALLIED BONN GROUP REPS

ON MAY 9 TO DISCUSS REMARKS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY STOBBE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON APRIL 27. ACCORDING TO THE FRENCH MISSION IN BERLIN, WHOSE MINISTER HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER IN MORE DETAIL WITH STOBBE, STOBBE "PROPOSED" THAT THE BERLIN POLITICAL PARTIES SHOULD MAKE PUBLIC THEIR LIST OF PROPOSED CANDIDATES FOR THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT SUFFICIENTLY EARLY FOR THE BERLIN POPULATION TO KNOW THE NAMES OF THESE CANDIDATES WHEN THE ELECTIONS WERE HELD FOR THE NEW BERLIN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, REPORTEDLY IN MARCH, 1979.

2. RICHARD SAID THAT THE QUAI WAS CONCERNED THAT THIS COULD LEAD TO DE FACTO POPULAR ELECTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATES FROM BERLIN, E.G. IF THE PARTIES AGREED THAT DELEGATES WOULD BE AUTOMATICALLY SELECTED FROM THE BERLIN HOUSE OF DEPUTIES IN SOME FASHION DEPENDENT ON THE NUMBER OF POPULAR VOTES THEY RECEIVED CONTRARY TO THE ALLIED DIRECTIVE THAT SUCH CANDIDATES WERE TO BE SELECTED BY THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES. EVEN IF THIS WERE NOT DONE, THE RESULT COULD BE THAT THE CANDIDATES FOR THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, WHO WOULD PRESUMABLY ALSO BE CANDIDATES FOR THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES, WOULD EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT THEY WERE THEIR PARTIES' CHOICES FOR THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE BERLIN ELECTIONS WOULD TAKE ON THE TRAPPINGS OF A POPULAR CAMPAIGN  
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FOR THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.

3. RICHARD SAID THE QUAI BELIEVES THAT THE REMARKS BY STOBBE SHOULD BE TAKEN UP BY THE ALLIES WITH STOBBE AND WITH THE FRG. THE QUAI SAID THAT THE ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IN BERLIN SHOULD NOT GIVE RISE TO A CAMPAIGN OF THE SORT HELD IN THE FRG AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

4. UK REP (EYERS) SAID THAT LONDON IS AWARE OF STOBBE'S REMARKS BUT HAS NOT REACTED TO THEM. HOWEVER, HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT LITTLE OF STOBBE'S BEHAVIOR IN THE LAST YEAR SUPPORTED THE VIEW THAT STOBBE WAS TRYING TO MAKE TROUBLE WITH THE SOVIETS AND CERTAINLY NOT FOR POLITICAL GAIN. HE SAID IT WAS MORE LIKELY THAT STOBBE WAS SEEKING TO PREVENT THE CDU IN BERLIN FROM PORTRAYING ITSELF AS THE ONLY PARTY INTERESTED IN EUROPE. SHOULD THE FCO BE PREPARED TO TAKE UP STOBBE'S REMARKS, AND EYERS THOUGHT THE FCO WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO DO SO WITH STOBBE HIMSELF, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE FCO WOULD BE PREPARED TO AGREE TO MORE THAN AN INQUIRY AS TO WHAT STOBBE HAD SAID.

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O R 101248Z MAY 78 ZFF 4  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO USMISSION USBERLIN NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8385  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
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5. RICHARD SAID THAT THE QUAI HAD SUGGESTED AN APPROACH TO STOBBE BUT THAT HE COULD RECOMMEND A LOW-KEY INQUIRY TO A MEMBER OF THE SENAT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASKING WHAT STOBBE HAD IN MIND. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE ALLIED BONN GROUP REPS AGREE TO RECOMMEND SUCH AN APPROACH.

6. THE US REP AGREED THAT IF WHAT STOBBE HAD IN MIND WAS SOMETHING WHICH WOULD LEAD TO DE FACTO POPULAR ELECTION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, OR A POPULAR CAMPAIGN FOR THOSE CANDIDATES, IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR THE ALLIES AND COULD VITIATE WHAT WE HAVE TOLD THE SOVIETS. HE AGREED THAT STOBBE WAS NOTED FOR HIS GOOD SENSE AND SAID THAT IT WOULD BE A BIT MUCH FOR THE ALLIES TO MAKE A FORMAL DEMARCHE TO STOBBE. HE ALSO SAID THAT A FORMAL DEMARCHE  
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TO THE SENAT WOULD REQUIRE CAPITALS' APPROVAL AND SUGGESTED THAT WE MIGHT INQUIRE OF THE BERLIN REP (MEICHNER) IN THE BONN GROUP AS TO WHAT WAS SAID. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT WE INCLUDE A REFERENCE IN THE ASSESSMENT FOR THE QUADRIPARTITE DINNER TO THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ISSUE BE TREATED IN BERLIN WITH RESERVE AND DISCRETION. RICHARD AGREED THAT THE REFERENCE IN THE ASSESSMENT WOULD BE USEFUL BUT BOTH HE AND EYERS SAID THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD PURSUE THE MATTER IN BERLIN, WHERE THE ALLIES HAVE SUPREME AUTHORITY, BEFORE POLITICIANS HAD TAKEN PUBLIC STANDS FROM WHICH IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO BACK DOWN.

7. SINCE HE HAD NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF THE MATTER, THE US REP RESERVED HIS POSITION AND IT WAS AGREED TO RETURN TO THE SUBJECT LATER THIS WEEK, PROBABLY ON MAY 11 OR 12, WHEN THE SUBJECT OF ARMING JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED BY THE ALLIED BONN GROUP REPS.

8. COMMENT: WE FIND THE WHOLE THING RATHER CURIOUS AND BELIEVE THAT THE FRENCH MAY BE UNDULY CONCERNED BECAUSE OF A SERIES OF ASSUMPTIONS THEY MAKE ON WHICH THAT CONCERN RESTS. WE ASSUME THAT STOBBE DOES NOT HAVE IN MIND THE TYPE OF SCENARIO WHICH THE FRENCH SAY COULD EVOLVE. THAT BEING SAID, THE SENSITIVITY OF BERLIN'S INCLUSION IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IS SUCH THAT WE BELIEVE A LOW-KEY INQUIRY TO THE SENAT CAN DO

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TO USMISSION USBERLIN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8386

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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NO HARM. THIS COULD SERVE AS A REMINDER THAT THE ALLIES WOULD LIKE FOR THE QUESTION OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS IN BERLIN TO BE TREATED WITH APPROPRIATE RESERVE AND DISCRETION, AND THAT THE ALLIES WILL WISH TO BE CONSULTED FULLY ON PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED BEFORE ANY PROPOSALS OR DECISIONS ARE ANNOUNCED.

9. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING MORE USBER HAS ON STOBBE'S REMARKS AND, UNLESS USBER'S REVIEW OF THE MATTER DOES NOT SUPPORT THE FRENCH REPORT OF WHAT STOBBE SAID, PROPOSE TO RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT APPROVE A LOW-KEY INQUIRY TO THE SENAT AS TO WHAT IT WAS THAT STOBBE IN FACT SAID AND WHAT HE MEANT. AS NOTED ABOVE, WE WILL BE SEEKING TO GAIN FRENCH SUPPORT IN BONN FOR A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF ARMS FOR PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES AT THE MEETING EXPECTED TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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HELD MAY 11 OR 12 AND A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE FRENCH COULD FACILITATE SUCH SUPPORT.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF USBER COULD INFORM US PROMPTLY IF STOBBE DID NOT IN FACT MAKE THE STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM. STOESEL

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## Message Attributes

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